

**CHAPTER 63****NURSE OFFICER CANDIDATE PROGRAM AUTHORIZING  
ACCESSION AND CONTINUATION BONUS****6301 AUTHORITY**

Public Law 101-189, 29 November 1989 (reference (ds)), authorizes the Secretaries of each Military Department to provide financial assistance to full-time students enrolled in a baccalaureate degree in nursing program to assist in the completion of degree requirements and earn a commission as a nurse corps officer on the active duty list.

**★6302 BASIC CONDITIONS OF ENTITLEMENT**

The Accession and Continuation Bonus are authorized for nursing students who execute an agreement during the period 29 November 1989 through 30 September 1998 under the following conditions:

630201. Are enrolled as a full-time student in an accredited baccalaureate degree program in nursing at a civilian educational institution that does not have a Senior Reserve Officer's Training program established and will complete this nursing degree program.

630202. Have completed the second year of an accredited baccalaureate degree program in nursing and have more than six months of academic work remaining before graduation.

630203. Meet the qualifications for appointment as an officer of a Reserve Component of the Army, Navy, or Air Force as set forth in the regulations of the Secretary concerned.

**6303 WRITTEN AGREEMENT EXECUTED**

The student described in section 6302, above, will execute a written agreement which must include the following:

630301. Agree to complete the nursing degree program as stated above in paragraph 630201, above.

630302. Agree that, upon acceptance of the agreement by the Secretary concerned, the student will enlist in a Reserve Component of an Armed Force.

630303. Agree that the student will accept an appointment as an officer in the Nurse Corps of the Army or the Navy or as an officer designated as a nurse officer in the Air Force, as the case may be, upon graduation from the nursing degree program.

630304. Agree that the individual will serve on active duty as such an officer as follows:

A. For period of 4 years in the case of a person whose agreement was accepted by the Secretary concerned during that person's fourth year of the nursing degree program, or

B. For period of 5 years in the case of a person whose agreement was accepted by the Secretary concerned during that person's third year of the nursing degree program.

#### 6304 AMOUNTS PAYABLE

630401. Accession Bonus. An amount of not more than \$5,000 shall be paid in periodic installments, as determined by the Secretary concerned at the time the agreement is accepted, except that the first installment may not exceed \$2,500.

630402. Continuation Bonus. In addition to the accession bonus the student shall be entitled to a monthly continuation bonus of not more than \$500 for each month the individual is enrolled as a full-time student in an accredited baccalaureate degree program in nursing at a civilian educational institution that does not have a Senior Reserve Officers' Training Program established under 10 U.S.C. 2102 (reference (c)). The continuation bonus may be paid for not more than 24 months.

#### 6305 RECOUPMENT

630501. The nurse officer candidate shall refund the entire amount of the accession and continuation bonus upon failure to:

A. Complete a nursing degree program in which the person is enrolled in accordance with the agreement entered into with the Military Department;

B. Accept an appointment, if tendered, as an officer of the Nurse Corps of the Army or the Navy or as an officer designated as a nurse officer of the Air Force; or

C. Complete the period of obligated active service required under the agreement.

630502. Under the following circumstances no recoupment will be required; however, no further payments will be made:

A. Death or disability that is not the result of misconduct or willful neglect and not incurred during a period of unauthorized absence;

B. Separation from military service by operation of laws or regulations of the Department of Defense or Military Service regulations, when approved by the Secretary concerned;

C. In other cases, when the ASD(HA) determines recoupment is not in the best interest of the government.

630503. Effective 29 November 1989, a discharge in bankruptcy under Title 11, U.S.C. (reference (aj)) shall not release a person from an obligation to reimburse the United States required under the terms of a written agreement entered into for this accession bonus and continuation bonus, if the final decree of the discharge in bankruptcy was issued within a period of 5 years after the last day of a period that such person had served on active duty.

630504. An obligation to reimburse the United States imposed for the reasons stated above is for all purposes a debt owed to the United States.

6306 TAX WITHHOLDING

630601. The accession and continuation bonus is subject to federal income tax withholding (FITW).

630602. The accession and continuation bonus is not subject to Federal Insurance Contribution Act (FICA) (reference (ci)) withholding.